Help from Private Sector for Non-conventional Sources of Energy

1519. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to seek the help from the private sector for the production of energy from non-conventional sources; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) It is proposed to set up a Renewable Energy Development Fund and Corporation to promote projects pertaining to new and renewable sources of energy. The details of the Corporation are being worked out. It will be open to the Corporation to seek cooperation from all sectors including the private sector subject to the Government policy in force from time to time.

Taking over of State Electricity Boards

1520. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to take over the State Electricity Boards which fail to improve their performance within a prescribed period;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) the names of the State Electricity Boards whose performance is not upto the mark?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Plant Load Factor of Thermal Power Stations of the State Electricity Boards of Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal has been below the All-India average of 51.9 per cent in the current year.

Pricing Policy for Public Sector

1521. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state whether Government propose to formulate a long term pricing policy for public sector; and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): A committee to review policy for public enterprises has made recommendations regarding pricing policy for public sector. Their recommendations are under examination.

Improvement in Plant Load Factors

1522. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any improvement in plant load factor of power generation units in various States in the last six months; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) what is the P.L.F. State-wise this month as against the figure for the last six months;

(c) what measures have been taken to improve the P.L.F. and cut down losses of Electricity Boards in various States; and

(d) what is the present position of losses and what is the number of Engineers who were found responsible for these losses?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir. The average plant load factor of thermal power stations in the country increased from 46.5 per cent in August, 1985 to 57.6 per cent in February, 1986.

(b) State-wise details about plant load factor for the above period is given in the statement attached.

(c) In order to further improve the plant load factor of thermal power stations, a number of measures are being taken. These measures include:—

(1) Assistance to State Electricity Boards/power stations for undertaking plant betterment programmes;

(2) Assisting State Electricity Boards/power stations in procurement of requisite quality and quantity of coal and also spare parts from indigenous and foreign sources;

(3) Visit of task forces and roving teams to identify weak areas requiring improvement and preparation of time bound programmes for rectification.

(4) Training of engineers and operation and maintenance personnel.

(5) Implementation of a Centrally-sponsored Renovation and Modernisation Scheme covering 32 thermal stations, with Central loan assistance totalling Rs. 500 crores.

For improving financial position of the SEBs, a number of measures have been suggested. These measures include improvement in performance of thermal power stations; reduction in T&D losses; expediting commissioning of on-going projects; rationalisation of electricity tariff, reduction in outstanding dues through a regular system of billing and realisation.

(d) According to the provisional accounts available for the year 1984-85, the State Electricity Boards of Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have incurred losses amounting to Rs. 399.90 crores during that year. Financial losses of the Boards are on account of various factors and hence it is not practicable to attribute them to any particular category of staff.

Statement

Board/Corporation-wise Plant Load Factors from Aug. 85 to Feb. 86.

Board/States	Plant Load Factor (%)						
	Aug. 85	Sept. 85	Oct. 85	Nov. 85	Dec. 85	Jan. 86	Feb. 86
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Badarpur (NTPC)	37·5	44·2	44·2	43·8	57·9	56·2	58·3
DESU	66·1	64·9	51·9	61·0	65·7	76·6	70·6
J&K	Smaller cap. units not taken for PLF calculation						
Haryana	21·8	26·0	25·9	25·7	29·6	46 0	42·8
Rajasthan	56·2	45·5	41·5	41·0	42·8	66 6	75·1
Punjab	49·5	57·7	42·4	46 0	45·0	65·6	74.8
UPSEB	29·2	27.8	31·8	34·7	39·1	45·8	45·9
Singrauli	42·6	66·5	68·9	63·5	72·3	69·6	77·5
GEB	47·5	50 5	49·4	48·6	50·0	51.6	55·9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
MSEB . .	51·4	58·7	54·9	54·3	63·8	53·3	50·8
MPEB . .	45·6	49·5	52·3	57·6	61·5	58·0	58·0
Korba (NTPC)	76·6	86·4	85·6	68·3	63·8	68·5	98·5
APSEB . .	46·1	57·1	60·1	59·4	69·8	69·7	71·2
R'Gundem (NTPC)	60·3	64·6	70·8	75·0	95·4	101.3	85·1
Karnataka .	..	..	..	..	..	36·5	39·0
TNEB . .	52·7	53·1	56·1	57·6	65·2	67·9	67.8
Neyveli . .	68·8	54.2	61·6	59·7	81·3	70·1	83·3
Bihar . .	34·1	38·5	38·2	36·9	33·3	28·8	27·3
Orissa . .	24·0	19·2	23·2	22·8	24·6	27.5	32·3
WBSEB . .	47·7	42·6	44.4	44·4	38·9	39·7	41·0
DPL . .	21·1	22·3	21·6	33·7	34·1	32·6	26·6
Farakka (NTPC)	Unit commissioned on 1-1-86.						
D.V.C. . .	46·5	45·0	38·4	48.8	50.8	55·1	56·0
Assam . .	25.4	20.8	23.2	23.6	25.4	27.7	33.0
All India . .	46·5	49·8	49·5	50·2	54·4	55·7	57.6

Kanti Thermal Power Project

1523. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV. Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kanti Thermal Power Project in Bihar is not functioning well though fully completed to generate energy; and

(b) if so, when the construction on the project was taken up; when it was to be commissioned; whether it is not working well; what was its original estimated cost of construction; how much the investment has been met on the construction of the project until now and what are the constraints, which are coming in the way of the speedy construction of the project?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) The Muzaffarpur Thermal Power Station (2x110 MW) near Kanti was sanctioned in July, 1978 at an estimated cost of Rs. 84.39 crores and envisaged installation of the units in July, 1982 and January, 1983 respectively. However, the turn-key contract for its execution was finalised by Bihar State Electricity Board with BHEL only in February, 1980, stipulating commissioning of units in July, 1983 and January, 1984 respectively. The first unit was synchronised in March, 1985 and the second unit is expected to be synchronised in March, 1986. An expenditure of Rs. 161.83 crores had been incurred up to March, 1985. The primary reasons for delay in commissioning of this project are:—

(i) Delay in finalisation of agreement by BSEB for execution of work with M/s. BHEL on turn-key basis.

(ii) Problems encountered by BHEL in pilling work due to complex soil conditions.

(iii) Constraint of funds and slow rate of progress on various auxiliary system works.